

A New Support Opportunity for Promoting Social Accountability in South Asia!

The Affiliated Network for Social Accountability in South Asia (ANSA SAR)

Announces

The 2nd Social Accountability Grants Program

The Affiliated Network for South Asia (ANSA SAR) located at the Institute of Governance Studies (IGS,) BRAC University, Dhaka announces the **second cycle** of its grant program to promote demand-side led social accountability initiatives in South Asia. ANSA SAR is calling for proposals for grants of up to **\$45,000** over a maximum period of eighteen months. This call is open to organizations based in **Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka**. Civil society organizations, academic and research institutions are invited to submit a **Concept Note** describing their proposed program/intervention by **July 30, 2010**. Short listed organizations will then be requested to submit more complete Project Proposals.

Preference will be given to initiatives that emphasise building networks or communities of practices.

About the AFFILIATED NETWORK for SOCIAL ACCOUNTABILITY

Funded by **The World Bank Institute**, the Affiliated Networks for Social Accountability (ANSA) are an initiative to promote, strengthen and sustain social accountability knowledge and praxis globally. Social Accountability refers to the ways and means through which citizens can hold public institutions accountable in terms of delivering public services, improving people's welfare and protecting people's rights and entitlements.

The primary objective of ANSA-SAR is to enhance and scale up social accountability and governance initiatives in the South Asia Region through providing project grants to civil society organizations, giving academic fellowships to young scholars and building capacities and competencies within both state and civil society institutions.

IGS was established in 2005 under the umbrella of BRAC University with the mission to recognize and endorse effective, transparent, accountable, equitable and citizen-friendly governance in Bangladesh and in South Asia. Since its inception, the Institute has been a pioneer in disseminating quality education, research and training in the field of governance and development.

ANSA SAR in particular will mainstream the demand-side of governance, thereby complementing the work of IGS which has so far addressed the supply side.

ANSA SAR's first Social Accountability Grants Program was successfully launched in August 2009 and provides support to 14 organizations in South Asia. For a profile of the grantees, please visit ANSA SAR's website at <http://ansa-sar.org/ansa/south-asia>

Who can apply?

NGOs, Community Based Organizations, Faith Based Groups, Trade Unions, Academic and Research Institutions, in Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka may submit proposals for small grants (upto US\$45,000) over an eighteen month period. Those applying must be formally registered within their own countries and legally authorised and empowered to receive foreign source funding.

Areas of support

The ANSA-SA intends to support the scaling up of ongoing projects and/or fund pilots with a clear focus on **strengthening social accountability, good governance and integrity** in the following categories. Proposals may utilise one or more of these areas:

- Public Procurement (**Preferred Theme**)
- Right to Information
- Environment eg. Climate change, forest management, illegal logging, mining etc
- Public Service Delivery
- Budget monitoring and public expenditure tracking initiatives
- Design or strengthen social accountability tools such as social audits, citizen report cards and participatory budgeting.

ANSA SAR encourages the submission of projects involving intervention, training, and curriculum development.

Criteria for selection and support

Criteria for grant funding will include an assessment of whether the organization making the proposal has the capacity (conceptual, technical, human and fiduciary resources) and legal status to implement the proposed initiative, and whether the project itself has specific actions likely to make a direct and significant contribution to social accountability, with clearly defined outcomes that can be achieved in a limited period of time.

The selection process will be carried out through two stages, **Concept Notes** and **Full Proposals**. Evaluation of the **Concept Notes** will focus on the following:

- Organizational Credibility & Demonstrated Competency
- Organizational Capacity
- SMART Results (Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Realistic and Time bound)
- Innovativeness of the idea
- Engagement with stakeholders
- Institutionalization
- Sustainability (financial and social)

How to Apply

Concept Notes must be completed using the guidelines attached as **Annex A**. Please follow all instructions on the template carefully. Completed applications should be emailed to the following address on or before July 30, 2010.

ansa.sar@gmail.com

If you don't receive an acknowledgement from us within five days of submitting your concept note, please do alert us.

Annex A

Format for Concept Notes

All organisations applying for Grants under the ANSA SAR program must submit a Concept Note that provides basic information about the proposed activities to be funded. Assessment of your Concept Note will be based only on the information and documents requested in this paper – **please do not send any other documents.**

The Concept Note must include the following:

Section A: basic details about your organisation.

Section B: outline information on activities you are seeking support for. This section must be no longer than 1500 words.

The Font size for sections A and B must be no smaller than ARIAL 11 and text must be in English.

Section A

The information provided in this section will be used to make a decision on the eligibility of your organisation. Please provide all information indicated in the following checklist.

1. Please name your organisation and indicate its status (e.g. registered charity, not-for-profit limited company, for-profit organisation etc). Clearly state year of commencement
2. Please list the main thematic areas or sectors that your organization engage with and the geographical areas you have worked
3. Please attach a copy of the constitution or rules under which your organisation is governed.
4. Please attach a copy of the most recent approved Annual Audited Accounts for your organisation.
5. Please provide a short title for your proposed portfolio/programme.

SECTION B

The information you provide in this section will be used to make a decision on short-listing your concept for the final stage of the selection process. Please use the issues listed below to frame a response not exceeding 1500 words.

- Where did the idea for this programme/activity originate?
- What aspects of Social Accountability work will your activities address?
- To what extent do the proposed activities align with your organization's objectives and mandate?
- What specific needs will your proposal respond to?
- How significant are the problems you will address?
- Which geographical area will the intervention happen?
- What tools/approaches will you adopt?
- What long term impact do you expect your programme/ activities to have in terms of strengthening governance and transparency? What will this intervention change?
- What activities do you intend to support to achieve this?
- How much funding (in US Dollars) are you likely to request?

The Affiliated Network for Social Accountability

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